

Local Agency Conference Call

April 6, 2017



State Updates

- Money
 - Training money in budget
 - \$1000-\$2000- noticed it is not broken out on exp. reports, will be doing this next year. Still needs to be spent on training, and not incorporated into rest of budget.
 - Reallocation/contract amendments
 - Received all, reviewing
 - Will wait until after CR resolved to award grants (4/27)
 - Infrastructure
 - Priorities: 1-renovations/repairs to LA; 2- program integrity; 3-program efficiency; 3- enhancing food delivery
 - FFY16 year money- quick turnaround on request (4/21)

Updates cont.

- Federal Legislation & Funding
 - Proposed cuts to WIC in presidents budget, congress still needs to make funding decisions (FFY 17 & 18)
 - Child Nutrition Reauth- over due since Oct. 2015, not a priority this year, continue on with current bill (Healthy Hungry Free Kids Act 2010)
 - Talk/rumbling of block grants, etc. mostly to Medicaid. Wait and see...
- Breastfeeding Learning Collaborative next week!
 - Recognition awards on Tuesday night (like last year)
 - Infrastructure grant/reimbursement reminder



Updates cont.

- WIC Work Group
 - Meeting next Weds (4/12) at Fairmont. Agenda posted in Monday's newsletter. Observers welcome, but must RSVP- last chance
- Sub-contracts/MOUs- please ensure that all sub-contracts, service agreements, MOUs, etc. are cc'd to the State

State Update continued

- eWIC status
 - Testing is going GREAT!
 - Still on track for rollout pilot June 8th & 15th
 - Lewis & Clark, Broadwater, Anaconda, Butte-Silverbow
 - Lacy is collecting registration for Pilot training now (June 5-6th)
 - Statewide training will be late August & early Sept. in 4 locations (Helena, Missoula, Billings, Great Falls). Sign up later (June?). Details on the WIC calendar.
 - APL almost ready (UPC list), then we can roll out WIC Shopper App!
 - Level 3 certifications (testing transactions at every store) will happen just before rollout, will be an opportunity to supplement training for retailers, will be coordinating with LARCs



Upcoming Training

- Trainings 2017
 - Bi-monthly webinars- next is May 4th Health Information Screen review
 - NET- June
 - eWIC training- June (Helena/Pilot), August & Sept. (Helena, Billings, Great Falls & Missoula)
 - Best Beginnings- Helena, Aug. 16-17th,
 - NWA Technology and Integrity conference- Memphis, Sept.



WIC Smart Update

- Missoula completed a pilot- had 163 lessons since November (awesome!)
- Missoula setting up kiosk and promoting use in lobby
- Have 30 more people signed up for April & May
- Like the user materials, like the layout
- Con- follow up with participants to ensure they complete lesson
- Debbie or Mary in Missoula (258-4740) would be happy to talk about their experience



WIC Smart

- Please start using it for online education
- A file will be sent to WIC Smart monthly to set up new participants (household # used)
 - You can add participants in the interim, please do not use real names, just HH#
- More information will be posted in newsletter, and lesson on how to use it (staff) is on our website
- Can contact Lacy or Alex at SO for more information



WIC Shopper

- App primarily for eWIC
- ALMOST READY 😊
- We need to send them our APL (product list with UPCs) so they can load it
 - Then participants/staff/retailers can use the app to scan items and see whether approved or not
- Next phase include interface with eWIC processor so family information is accessible through App (balance inquiry)
 - This is a work in progress and will come a little later



Advocacy & Lobbying

- Lobbying is prohibited when federal funds are utilized (WIC \$)- may do this on own time
- Disclaimer in master contract, but not in all annual task orders (will add this year)
- Advocacy is OK and encouraged
- Difference?
 - Advocacy is educating and promoting program
 - Lobbying includes an “ask”- money, legislation, persuasion
- Please be cautious in how you use your role
 - i.e. do not sign on to letters of support for xyz in your WIC role



Customer Service Survey

- THANK YOU! Great response rate!
- Will be discussing at WWG next week
- Please feel free to reach out to me with specific concerns

Questions?

